

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A wireless apparatus for connecting a computing device of an individual, that does not include a wireless network connectivity capability, to a wireless network, comprising:

a first connector interface cable comprising a connector for connecting the apparatus to a networking interface circuit of the computing device, for receiving a first networking signal from the computing device, wherein the networking interface circuit is housed in the computing device;

a conversion module having a first connector interface port adapted to receive the first connector interface cable, and to receive ~~for receiving~~ the first networking signal from the connector interface cable, and a second connector interface port for receiving a wireless networking interface card, the conversion module operable to convert ~~converting~~ the first networking signal into a second networking signal; and

~~wherein a wireless networking interface card disposed in said conversion module and in communication with said conversion module for interfacing the second networking signal with said wireless network, to thereby interfaces~~ said computing device to said wireless network without first requiring modification to hardware of the computing device.

2. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the second connector interface port further comprising: a connector interface port for receiving said wireless networking interface card, wherein the connector interface port receives the second networking signal and sends the second networking signal to the wireless networking interface card.

3. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising:
a power source connected to the conversion module for providing power to the conversion module.

4. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 2, further comprising:
a power source connected to the conversion module and to the second connector interface port for providing power to the conversion module and to the wireless networking interface card.

5. (previously presented) The apparatus of Claim 3, wherein the power source is a battery disposed within a housing of the apparatus.

6. (previously presented) The apparatus of Claim 1, wherein the wireless networking interface card comprises an industry standard specification for the wireless network.

7-11. (cancelled)

12. (new) A wireless apparatus for connecting a computing device of an individual to a wireless network on a mobile platform, comprising:

a first connector interface cable comprising a connector for connecting the apparatus to a networking interface circuit of the computing device, and for receiving a first networking signal from the computing device, wherein the networking interface circuit is housed in the computing device;

a second connector interface cable comprising a connector for connecting the apparatus to a Universal Serial Bus (USB) port in the computing device for receiving a source of power to power the apparatus;

a conversion module having a first connector interface port adapted to receive the first connector interface cable to receive the first networking signal from the first connector interface cable, and a second connector interface port for receiving a wireless networking interface card, the conversion module operable to convert the first networking signal into a second networking signal and to receive and convert wireless networking signals into a form that can be processed by the network interface circuit; and

wherein the conversion module interfaces said computing device to said wireless network on the mobile platform without first requiring modification to hardware of the computing device.

13. (new) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the second connector interface port receives the second networking signal and sends the second networking signal to the wireless networking interface card.

14. (new) The apparatus of Claim 13, wherein the wireless networking interface card comprises an industry standard specification for the wireless network.

15. (new) An aircraft including a wireless network and a portable apparatus for connecting a computing device of an individual on the aircraft to the wireless network on the aircraft, the portable apparatus comprising:

a first cable comprising a connector for connecting the portable apparatus to a networking interface circuit of the computing device of the individual on the aircraft, the cable for receiving a first networking signal from the computing device;

a conversion module having a first connector interface port adapted to receive the cable to receive the first networking signal from the cable, and a second connector interface port for receiving a wireless networking interface card, the conversion module operable to convert the first networking signal into a second networking signal; and

wherein the wireless networking interface card is disposed in said conversion module and is in communication with said conversion module for interfacing the second networking signal with said wireless network on the aircraft, to thereby interface said computing device of the individual on the aircraft to said wireless network on the aircraft without first requiring modification to hardware of the computing device.

16. (new) The aircraft of Claim 15, further comprising
a second cable comprising a connector for connecting the apparatus to a port in the
computing device for receiving a source of power to power the apparatus from the
computing device of the individual on the aircraft.

17. (new) The aircraft of Claim 16, wherein the second cable is a universal serial
bus cable and the port is a universal serial bus port.

18. (new) A wireless apparatus for connecting a computing device of an
individual, that does not include a wireless network connectivity capability, to a wireless
network, comprising:

a first connector interface cable comprising a connector for connecting the apparatus
to a networking interface circuit of the computing device, for receiving a first networking
signal from the computing device, wherein the networking interface circuit is housed in the
computing device;

a second connector interface cable comprising a connector for connecting the
apparatus to a port in the computing device for receiving power from the computing device
to power the apparatus;

a conversion module having a first connector interface port adapted to receive the
first connector interface cable, and to receive the first networking signal from the connector
interface cable, the conversion module operable to convert the first networking signal into a
second networking signal; and

wherein said conversion module interfaces said computing device to said wireless
network without first requiring modification to hardware of the computing device.

19. (new) The apparatus of Claim 18, wherein the second connector interface cable is a universal serial bus cable and the port is a universal serial bus port.

20. (new) The apparatus of Claim 18, wherein the conversion module further comprises a second connector interface port for receiving a wireless networking interface card.